

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 536

By Hensley

A RESOLUTION to honor Dr. Reid B. Blackwelder for his exceptional work as the president of the American Academy of Family Physicians.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should specially honor those estimable persons who have dedicated their professional careers and personal excellence to improving the lives of their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, on such admirable person is Dr. Reid B. Blackwelder, who is a family physician in Kingsport, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Blackwelder is the president of the American Academy of Family Physicians, an organization that represents 110,600 physicians and medical students nationwide; and

WHEREAS, as president of the American Academy of Family Physicians, Dr. Blackwelder advocates on behalf of family physicians and patients to inspire progress in the United States health care system; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Blackwelder received the 2008 Exemplary Teacher of the Year Award from the American Academy of Family Physicians; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Blackwelder has been a member of the board of directors for over ten years, served on numerous committees, and served as president; the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians awarded Dr. Blackwelder the John S. Derryberry Distinguished Service Award for exceptional leadership and outstanding service to the organization; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his duties as president of the American Academy of Family Physicians, Dr. Blackwelder is a professor of family medicine at East Tennessee State

University and the director of the Medical Student Education Division of the Department of Family Medicine; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Blackwelder is a mentor to more than 1,400 medical students, and his dedication to teaching medical students and residents has been recognized by his numerous teaching awards, including the Humanism in Medicine Award, the Dean's Teaching Award, the Mentor of the Year award in 2001 and 2010, and the Outstanding Family Medicine Attending Physician of the Year award; and

WHEREAS, passionate about education, Dr. Blackwelder lectures nationally on complementary, alternative, and patient-centered medical practices; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Reid Blackwelder is a graduate of Haverford College and the Emory School of Medicine; he completed his residency at the Medical College of Georgia, where he served as chief resident; and

WHEREAS, in his private practice, Dr. Blackwelder focuses on patient-centered care; his practice is one of only two family medicine groups that admits its own patients, and until recently, he was the only family physician in Kingsport practicing obstetrics; and

WHEREAS, this legislative body is pleased to acknowledge Dr. Reid B. Blackwelder as an exceptional physician whose skill, dedication, and compassion is truly admirable; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we recognize Dr. Reid B. Blackwelder as a man of supreme ability and integrity and commend his meritorious work as president of the American Academy of Family Physicians.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.